

DRAFT

ORDINANCE TO PROVIDE REGULATIONS FOR THE RAISING OF CHICKENS IN THE VILLAGE OF WEST LIBERTY, OHIO.

WHEREAS, Village Council of the Village of West Liberty wishes to provide regulations for the raising and keeping of chickens within the Village limits for the public health, safety and welfare and to eliminate and/or control potential hazards posed by raising and keeping of chickens.

WHEREAS under Chapter 505 (Animals and Fowl) of the Codified Ordinances of the Village of West Liberty, Section 505.15(b) shall be amended to remove the word "chickens."

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT ORDAINED by the Council of the Village of West Liberty, Ohio, County of Logan, State of Ohio:

SECTION 1: The keeping/raising of chickens, and the erection of coops or other enclosures for such, shall comply with the following regulations:

- A. **Prohibitions:**
 - a. There shall be no free-range chickens.
 - b. There shall be no roosters or any fowl other than chickens, including geese, turkeys, ducks, quail, or predatory birds may be kept in the Village of West Liberty, Ohio.
- B. **Number:** No more than a total of six (6) chicken hens shall be kept on a parcel or lot area.
- C. Water shall be provided onsite and accessible to chickens at all times.
- D. **Setbacks:** Coops or cages housing chickens shall be kept at least twenty-five (25) feet from doors or windows of any occupied structure other than the owner's dwelling. Coops or cages housing chickens may not be located in front yard or side street yard and shall not be located within three (3) feet of a side yard line, nor within five (5) feet of a rear yard line.
- E. **Enclosures and Fences:** Chicken hens shall be provided with a covered, predator-proof coop or cage that is well ventilated and designed to be easily accessed for cleaning. Each coop or cage shall allow at least one (1) square foot of free movement per hen. Chicken hens shall have access to an outdoor enclosure adequately fenced or otherwise bounded to contain the hens on the property and to prevent access by dogs or other predators and providing at least ten (10) square feet per hen.
- F. **Sanitation:** The cage/coop and outdoor enclosure must be kept in a sanitary condition and free from offensive odors. The cage/coop and outdoor enclosure must be cleaned on a regular basis to prevent accumulation of waste.
- G. **Violations:** Whoever violates subsection (a) through (f) is guilty of a minor misdemeanor. If violations are continued, each day a person remains in violation shall constitute a separate offense. Any law enforcement agent within the jurisdiction of the Village of West Liberty may give a 24-hour notice and inspect all grounds, cages/coops, enclosures, chickens and conditions in which chickens are kept.

SECTION 2: This ordinance shall not override any future or previously recorded restrictive deeds or subdivision covenants.

SECTION 3. It is hereby found and determined that all formal actions of this Council concerning the adoption of this Ordinance were adopted in an open meeting of this Council and that any and all deliberations of this Council that resulted in such formal action were in meetings open to public, in compliance with all the legal requirements of the laws of the State of Ohio.